

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A catalyst for purifying exhaust gas, which reduces nitrogen oxides in an exhaust gas containing excessive oxygen under the existence of methanol and/or dimethyl ether, ~~characterized in that said~~ wherein the catalyst comprises consists of a proton type β zeolite of which a $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ molar ratio is within 20-70.

2. (Cancel)

3. (Currently Amended) A method of purifying exhaust gas, wherein said method includes reducing ~~removing~~ nitrogen oxides in the exhaust gas containing excessive oxygen therein under the existence of methanol and/or dimethyl ether as reducing agent by making the exhaust gas contact with a proton types β zeolite catalyst of which a $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ molar ratio is within 20-70.

4. (Cancel)